

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The section headings are amended along the lines of the preferred USPTO layout to address the specification objection noted in the Official Action.

Claims 19-35 were previously pending in the application. New claims 36 and 37 are added. Therefore claims 19-37 are presented for consideration.

Claim 19 is amended to recite "the method comprising the steps of:" to address the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection noted on page 3 of the Official Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 19-24 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by YODA et al. U.S. Publication No. 2001/005111. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 19 is amended to clarify how the shadows are acquired, stored and displayed as recited in steps c, d and e. Support for the amendments may be found at least on page 5, line 20, page 11, lines 30-34 and page 20, lines 16-20.

YODA discloses with respect to Figure 3, noted in the Official Action, a lens image sensing apparatus 52 including a mark detector 53 for determining the lens mark position in a power measuring device 54 for determining the optical power of

the lens. The mark detector 53 includes a light source 31, a mirror system, lenses, and an image sensing unit 48. Image marks are focused by a condenser lens 38 and projected on a reflection screen 40. These marks are reflected again to return to a convex surface of the lens through the initial optical path. Thus, the image formed on the sensing unit 48 through the half mirror 34 is not deformed by the lens.

The power measuring device 54 includes a light source 58, a lens system including a pin hole 62 and a transmission screen 66. Light from light source 58 is collimated by lens 59 through pin hole 62 to illuminate the transmission screen 66.

An object of YODA is to determine the lens power by placing a target in the first position (see paragraph [0068]) so that the image of the pin hole appears on the transmission screen at an initial position. The lens is placed on a lens mount base 57 which causes the image of the pin hole to move on the transmission screen. Then the target is moved into a position in which the image of the pin hole comes back to its initial position. The lens power of the lens is then calculated by converting the moving amount of the target 61 into power (see paragraph [0069]).

However, the construction and function of the transmission screen 66 does not meet the recited display screen.

First, YODA fails to disclose a display screen visible to an operator. Rather, as seen in Figure 3 of YODA, the

transmission screen 66 is only visible to the image sensing unit 48.

Second, transmission screen 66 of YODA does not display shadows of the marks. Rather, as seen in Figure 3 of YODA, the shadows of the marks are reflected by the half mirror toward the image sensing unit 48. The shadows of the marks are not reflected towards the transmission screen 66 and thus are not displayed on such transmission screen.

Third, transmission screen 66 is not capable of displaying a virtual centering target as such screen is not an electronic screen capable of displaying virtual information.

In view of the above, it is apparent that YODA fails to meet at least the recited displaying on a display screen visible to an operator firstly the shadow of the center and/or axis marking of the ophthalmic lens, and secondly a virtual centering target corresponding to the position desired for the center marking of the lens. YODA also fails to disclose putting the shadow of the centering marketing of the ophthalmic lens into coincidence with the virtual centering target.

As the reference does not disclose that which is recited, the anticipation rejection is not viable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 25-34 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over YODA et al. in view of YANAGI et al. U.S. 5,867,259. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

YANAGI is only cited with respect to features of the dependent claims. YANAGI does not overcome the shortcomings of YODA set forth above with respect to claim 19. Since claims 25-34 depend from claim 19 and further define the invention, claims 25-34 are believed patentable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

Claim 35 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over YODA et al. in view of YANAGI et al. and further in view of DEVIE et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0112426. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

DEVIE is only cited with respect to the features of dependent claim 35. DEVICE does not overcome the shortcomings of YODA set forth above with respect to claim 19. Since claim 35 depends from claim 19 and further defines the invention, claim 35 is believed to be patentable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

New claims 36 and 37 are added. New independent claim 36 finds support in original claims 19 and 27. New claim 37 finds support in original claim 28.

In view of the present and the foregoing Remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in

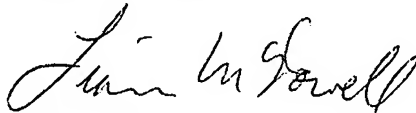
condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes that such action would expedite resolution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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